

To/ David Bradford, Esq.  
Sup<sup>t</sup>. Br. Mint,  
New Orleans,

January 17. 1839.

Mint W L  
Jan 17<sup>th</sup> 1839.

Sir,

Your letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> inst. has been duly received, and has enabled me to give the statements respecting your Mint required in my annual report.

The dies which you ask for have been ordered, and will be forwarded without delay. It appears to me that no time should be lost in getting ready for the coinage of half dollars. Dimes and half-dimes count too slowly, and keep your amount of coinage too low.

I pray you to present my respects to Gen. Gaines, and to inform him that the dies for his medal belong to the government, and are specially entrusted to the keeping of this Mint, as are all the other dies prepared under the same circumstances. The cost of an additional gold medal would be about \$180; but Gen. Gaines is probably not aware that you have no press, in your Mint, with which such a medal could be struck.